

I am writing to comment on proceeding 13-184 concerning the E-Rate program. There can be no doubt that the E-Rate program has provided an immeasurable contribution to the learning environments of countless schools and libraries nationwide. As a CEO of a Cloud Computing company, we are challenged DAILY to find qualified, technically savvy individuals to fill our open job positions. More often than not, applicants for the highly technical positions come from foreigners which would require visa sponsorship. It is sad that the USA turns out so few technically competent individuals. Through the expansion of programs such as E-Rate we can, very likely, work to reverse this trend. I respectfully URGE the FCC to increase funding for the E-Rate program to a minimum of \$5B per annum, with a strong consideration for even more.

Warm regards,

Rick